

Herbert Mottershead

Macclesfield Road, Holmes Chapel

Returned

Citation for Distinguished Conduct Medal

8374 Sjt. (A/CSM) H. MOTTERSHEAD
 For conspicuous gallantry in action.
 He repaired wires and rescued several
 wounded man under intense fire, display-
 ing great courage and determination.
 Later he rendered valuable assistance
 in reorganising the position gained.
 (14.11.16)

His Story

Herbert was the son of Thomas and Mary Ann Mottershead born in 1889. In 1891 the family are living at Cross Town, Knutsford and Thomas is employed as a gardener.

By 1901 the family are living at a 'Private House' on Twemlow Lane, Cranage and Herbert is employed carrying out household duties aged 12. His father is now an 'Engine and Dynamo Attendant'

The 1911 census confirms he was a soldier aged 22.

He married Margaret O'Connor at Liverpool Registry Office in November 1915 and his daughter Margaret Mary was born in January 1918. The family later emigrated to Canada, living in Victoria, British Columbia. Herbert died at Sooke, BC on 25th February 1974 aged 85.

His War Record

His military record shows that he initially enlisted at Sandbach on the 8th January 1907 when he was aged 18yrs 6 months. His height was 5 ft 5½ ins and he was working as a farm labourer at Higher Peover. He joined the 1st Battalion, Cheshire Regiment, number 8674 on 25th March 1907 and in 1911 was serving in Northern Ireland. He was promoted to Corporal in July 1911.

In May 1912 he was transferred to Army Reserve as a private. He was remustered at Chester on the 21st September 1914 and served in France with the British Expeditionary Force.

In December 1916 he was promoted to Company Sergeant Major and in February 1918 received the Distinguished Conduct Medal (see citation above).

On the 31st March 1920 he was discharged having served 13 years 83 days.